

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A cleaning device for cleaning a surface comprising:
 - a base for movement along a surface;
 - a suction nozzle associated with said base;
 - a suction source for drawing liquid and dirt from said surface through said suction nozzle;
 - a brush assembly operatively connected to said base; and
 - wherein said brush assembly having at least one brush including a first set of pliable elements extending downwardly from said brush and contacting the surface, said pliable elements sloping downwardly and outwardly, said first set of pliable elements having at least a first group of pliable elements and a second group of pliable elements, each of said pliable elements of said second group of said first set extending downwardly from said brush at a length less than said first group of said first set, said second group of pliable elements of said first set being positioned inwardly from said first group of said pliable elements of said first set, wherein said first set of pliable elements are arranged in separate bundles forming a ring around said brush, each of said bundles includes said first and second groups of pliable elements, said second group of pliable elements having at least a first pliable element extending a first length, at least a second pliable element extending a second length greater than the first length of said first pliable element, and at least a third pliable element extending a third length greater than the second length of said second pliable element;
 - wherein a substantial number of said pliable elements of said second group having an innermost pliable element and an outermost pliable element, each of said pliable elements having a working end, wherein said substantial number of said pliable elements are cut such that a plane extending from the bottom end of the

innermost pliable element to the bottom end of the outermost pliable element is in the range of 40 to 50 degrees with respect to the cleaning surface.

2. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 1 including a liquid distribution system for dispensing liquid to said surface, a second set of pliable elements extending downwardly from said brush and contacting the surface, said second set of pliable elements located inwardly from said first set of pliable elements, said brush having at least one opening for dispensing the liquid to the cleaning surface, said opening being located between said first and second set of pliable elements.
3. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 1 including a second set of pliable elements extending downwardly from said brush and contacting the surface, said second set of pliable elements located inwardly from said first set of pliable elements, said second set of pliable elements having at least a first group of pliable elements and a second group of pliable elements, each of said pliable elements of said second group of said second set extending downwardly from said brush at a length less than said first group of pliable elements of said second set.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Currently amended) The cleaning device of claim [5]1 wherein said first pliable element is positioned inwardly from said second pliable element, said second pliable element is positioned inwardly from said third pliable element.
7. (Canceled).
8. (Currently amended) The cleaning device of claim [7]1 wherein said substantial number of said pliable elements of said second group are arranged in increasing length going from the ~~from the~~ innermost pliable element to the outermost pliable element.

9. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 1 wherein said each of said pliable element is angled outwardly in the range of 20 to 40 degrees with respect to an axis perpendicular to the cleaning surface.
10. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 1 wherein said pliable elements are bristles.
11. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 10 wherein said bristles are crimped.
12. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 1 wherein said brush is rotatable.
13. (Original) The cleaning device of claim 9 wherein said brush assembly includes a plurality of said brushes, said brushes being gear brushes and arranged in a gear train, each said brush rotating about a vertical axis.
14. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The cleaning device for cleaning a surface in which cleaning solution is dispensed to the surface and substantially simultaneously extracted along with the dirt on the surface in a continuous operation comprising:~~
 - ~~a base for movement along a surface;~~
 - ~~a recovery system mounted to said base and comprising:~~
 - ~~a suction nozzle;~~
 - ~~a suction source for drawing liquid and dirt from said surface through said suction nozzle;~~
 - ~~a liquid distribution system for dispensing liquid to said surface;~~
 - ~~a brush assembly operatively connected to said base; and~~
 - ~~wherein said brush assembly has at least one brush including a first set of pliable elements extending downwardly from said brush and contacting the surface, said pliable elements of said first set sloping downwardly and outwardly, said brush including a second set of pliable elements extending downwardly from said brush and contacting the surface, said second set of pliable elements located inwardly from said first set of pliable elements, of claim 1, wherein said brush having assembly~~

defines at least one opening for dispensing the liquid to the cleaning surface, said opening being located between said first and second sets of pliable elements.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently amended) The cleaning device of claim [[18]] 21 wherein said brush is rotatable.

20. (Currently amended) The cleaning device of claim [[19]] 21 wherein said brush assembly includes a plurality of said brushes, said brushes being gear brushes and arranged in a gear train, each said brush rotating about a vertical axis.

21. (New) A cleaning device for cleaning a surface comprising:
a base for movement along the surface;
a suction nozzle associated with said base;
a suction source for drawing liquid and dirt from said surface through said suction nozzle;
a brush assembly operatively connected to said base;
wherein said brush assembly having at least one brush including a plurality of bundles, each bundle including at least one pliable element for contacting the surface;
wherein said bundles are arranged in a first set and a second set, said second set being located inward of said first set; and
wherein said second set of bundles has a different height than the bundles of said first set.

22. (New) The cleaning device of claim 21, wherein said bundles of said first set are arranged in an outer ring and said bundles of said second set are arranged in an inner ring,
- wherein said bundles in said inner ring are shorter than said bundles in said outer ring relative to the surface.
23. (New) The cleaning device of claim 21, wherein said first set of bundles and said second set of bundles are each arranged in a pair of rows extending parallel to each other and projecting downward from a support member on said base;
- wherein the second set of bundles are located inward of said first set of bundles, and wherein said first set of bundles is longer than said second set of bundles relative to said support member.
24. (New) The cleaning device of claim 21, wherein said brush defines at least one opening for dispensing liquid to the surface, said opening being located between said first and second set of bundles.
25. (New) The cleaning device of claim 21, wherein said at least one pliable element is a plurality of bristles.